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CARLTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health,
for the Year 1914.
Together with Reports of Surveyor
and Inspector of Nuisances.

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CARLTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Medical Officer of Health:

Mr. J. T. KNIGHT, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A.L.

Inspector of Nuisances:

Mr. J. E. TRUMAN.

Collector:

Mr. W. PECK.

Librarian:

Mr. EDGAR BAKER.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Carlton.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my thirty-second Annual Report.

In my last Report I entered rather more fully than usual, for reasons given, into matters descriptive of the physical and social conditions of the district, and a repetition would perhaps serve no useful purpose. On the other hand, certain subjects relating to desirable requirements and prevailing provisions, in spite of a perhaps monotonous reiteration, cannot altogether be avoided in a review embracing statistics and other matters connected with the past year.

The Local Government Board, in a Memorandum to Medical Officers of Health, states that "much importance attaches to Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health, which, when carefully and systematically prepared, not only form a record of local conditions, but also supply an index of public health work accomplished during the year under report, and of work still needing to be done," and in an appendix, sets forth in detail, matters about which information should be given.

There has been a steady increase in the number of new houses in Carlton and Porchester Wards; Netherfield having been at a stand-still. At midsummer, 1914, there were 4,196 houses in the district, against 4,136 in 1913, showing an increase of 57, representing a percentage of 1.4.

The rateable value of the district last spring was £44,165 12s., against £43,052 16s. in the previous year; and the assessable value £38,135 6s., against £37,266 12s.

Of other than main roads, 1 mile or so has been added; the estimate having been 15 against 14 miles in 1913.

Approximately, the estimate of out-door relief during the year, in this district, was £724.

With the exception of St. Augustine's Roman Catholic School, no schools have been closed during the year, though, as usual, outbreaks of infectious diseases, also severe colds, etc., have at times detrimentally affected attendances and grants. St. Augustine's School was closed for three weeks in the spring, on account of Measles.

In consequence of the terrible war which has been, and is now, raging on the Continent, a War Office circular, dated October 21st, was issued to Councils, containing directions to Medical Officers of Health respecting billeting and camps; up to the present, there has been no billeting nor camp actually in the district. The County Medical Officer furnished me with a list of Belgian Refugees sent into the district, on account of the possibility of the introduction of infectious diseases; from time to time I have made inquiries, but have not heard of any infectious diseases affecting them.

Through the exertions of Mrs. Enfield, of Burton Joyce, a Mothers' and Babies' Welcome has been voluntarily established in the district, and it is to be hoped that it will meet with every encouragement, as advice to mothers, before and after confinement—for their own good, and that of their offspring—is really necessary, especially in districts containing a large number of people who have no facilities for acquiring such useful knowledge as can be by such means imparted. The large number of infants who are lost during their first year of life from preventable causes, and other circumstances affecting the mothers' healths, call for some effort for mitigation. The result of such a voluntary effort might be greatly enhanced by the co-operation of the Council and by the adoption of the Notification of Births Act and the employment of a Health Visitor.

The Nottingham tramway system has now been extended into the district; and, running at frequent intervals, the cars enable the people to be quickly carried to and from the heart of the City, or places *en route.*

The streets have been kept in good repair, and continuously watered during the dry weather.

A few properties are still supplied with well-water, such water has been examined from time to time. Where the water is not satisfactory, the well is either abolished and Nottingham Corporation water substituted, or else thoroughly cleansed and repaired, awaiting further examination. Full particulars of all such work may be gleaned from the Reports presented with this Report by the Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances.

Some parts of the main street in Carlton, which is the high road from Nottingham to Southwell and other populous places, are narrow and flanked by poor property, and a great improvement might be effected at a comparatively low cost.

Tables with statistics of births, deaths, notifications of infectious diseases, factories and workshops, and meteorology, are appended to this Report.

POPULATION.

I am again indebted to the Rate Collector for an estimate of the number of occupied houses at midsummer. In Carlton there were 1,942 ; in Netherfield, 1,528 ; and in Porchester, 629 ; giving a total of 4,099 for the whole district.

By applying the average number of occupants, as ascertained by the 1911 census, viz., 4.4 per house in Carlton and Netherfield, and 4 per house in Porchester, the estimated populations are 8,545 in Carlton, 6,723 in Netherfield and 2,516 in Porchester, making for the whole district a total of 17,784.

My estimate for 1913 was 17,243, so that 541 represents the increase in 1914. This increase has been participated in by all three Wards ; in Carlton the increase amounted to 229 ; in Netherfield, 180 ; and Porchester, 132.

In the spring of 1911, when the census was taken, the population was 15,723.

The increased population has, doubtless, been chiefly caused by the tendency of town-people to migrate into the suburbs, and also by the employment provided by factories in the district, and the adjacent Gedling colliery. Another recent factor has been the extension of the Nottingham tramways into the district.

BIRTHS.

There were 495 births registered in the district, representing a birth-rate of 27.83, satisfactorily comparing with the three previous years. In 1911 the birth-rate was 26.65 ; in 1912, 24.76 ; and in 1913, 25.46.

There were no births belonging to the district transferred from outside.

Of the births, 242 were of males and 253 females.

In Carlton there were 252 births, with a birth-rate of 25.98 ; Netherfield, 178, with 26.48 ; and Porchester, 65, with 25.83.

The birth-rates of Carlton and Netherfield were much the same as in previous years, but the Porchester rate has markedly advanced, for in 1912 it was 15.79, and in 1913, 17.62. If this degree of progression continues, the average of inhabitants per house in Porchester at the next census will be found, in all probability, to be greater than that of the last.

With regard to illegitimate births, Carlton takes the unenviable lead, for 16 belonged to Carlton, 6 to Netherfield and 4 to Porchester.

The birth-rate for the smaller towns in England and Wales for 1914 was 23.6.

DEATHS.

There were 165 deaths registered in the district, 6 of which were of non-residents belonging to other districts. On the other hand, there were 27 deaths belonging and transferred to this district. By subtracting the 6 and adding the 27, the net deaths belonging to the district were 186. The death-rate of the number registered in the district was 9.28, and that of the net deaths 10.46. The majority of the transferred deaths from outside took place in a hospital, workhouse or asylum. Of these deaths transferred from outside, 18 belonged to Carlton, 6 to Netherfield and 3 to Porchester.

Although, perhaps, compared with similar districts, the loss of young lives is not excessive, yet it is lamentable to record that 59 children, or nearly one-third of all those stricken by death, did not reach 5 years of age. Saving the lives and preserving and improving the health of the young as much as possible is a matter deserving the closest attention of sanitary authorities as well as philanthropic societies. Much is being already done by school Medical Officers and other agencies, but there is still scope for further enterprise in this direction.

Of the total of deaths, 180 were certified either by medical practitioners or inquest, and 6 were uncertified.

The causes of, and ages at, death will be found fully stated on Table 3.

Of the 186 or net deaths, that is including all belonging to the district and excluding those belonging to other districts, 84 belonged to Carlton, with a death-rate of 9.84; 65 to Netherfield, with 9.67 rate; and 37 to Porchester, with 14.70 rate. The higher rate for Porchester is accounted for by the large number of deaths of very old people, including that of a person aged 91 years. Of the 84 deaths belonging to Carlton, 22 were of persons over 65 years of age, or 26 per cent.; of the 65 belonging to Netherfield, 18, or 27 per cent.; and Porchester, 13, with a 35 percentage. Of course deaths at such ages are rightly regarded as inevitable, and not due to sanitary conditions; and further, Porchester contains a goodly proportion of elderly people who have partially or totally retired from business, and spend the remainder of their lives in this residential district.

The County Medical Officer supplied me with a factor, viz., 1.0362, for correcting the general death-rate, and this I made use of for the first time in my last Annual Report. The application of this factor shows what the death-rate would have been if the proportion of males to females, children, adults, and old people, had been the same as in the general population of the whole Kingdom, based upon the 1911 census. By applying this factor, the standardized death-rate for this district was 10.83.

In the 145 smaller towns of England and Wales, the crude death-rate was 12.8, and the standardized 12.9.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 37 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, the rate per 1,000 births having been 75.

For the 145 smaller towns of England and Wales the rate per 1,000 births was 104 ; so that the rate of this district compares favourably with many other districts or smaller towns. Yet it is regrettable that so large a number survive for so short a time after birth, and that too frequently the causes of such deaths, under favourable circumstances, might be avoided in some cases.

Of the 37 deaths, 11 were of children who died within 1 week from birth, and of these, 10 were prematurely born. Of those children who died before attaining the age of 1 year, 1 death was ascribed to Congenital Malformation ; 14 deaths to Premature Birth ; and 6 to Atrophy, Debility and Wasting.

It is satisfactory to note that no death was due to Diarrhœa, which, in certain seasons, plays such deadly havoc amongst infants ; but there was 1 death from Enteritis, which, in Table 4, is bracketed with Diarrhœa.

Of the 37 deaths, 36 were certified and 1 uncertified.

Belonging to Carlton, there were 19 deaths of infants under 1 year, averaging 75 ; to Netherfield, 14 deaths, averaging 79 ; and Porchester, 4 deaths, with an average of 67 per 1,000 births.

There was 1 death of an illegitimate infant in Carlton. The high death-rate of illegitimate infants has been hitherto, only too noticeable, so that it is pleasing to mention that in the past year less than 4 per cent. of illegitimate, compared with nearly 8 per cent. of legitimate, infants died under 1 year of age.

The adoption of the Notification of Births Act, coupled with health visiting and the institution of Mothers' and Babies' Welcomes, would have a beneficial influence towards reducing the rate of infantile mortality in working-class districts, and well worth the expense incurred. However, considering the national importance of taking such steps, it is perhaps hardly fair that the whole expense should fall on the particular locality which may contain a large proportion of working people whose families are, speaking generally, larger than those of other classes. Towards the expense of Mothers' and Babies' Welcomes, prospective assistance from the Local Government Board may, I believe, be relied on.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Under this heading, the seven principal epidemic diseases are referred to, viz., Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Measles and Diarrhœa.

During the past few years, Diarrhœa, which at times is so fatal and has such a considerable influence on the Zymotic death-rate, has been, through climatic causes, and it is to be hoped also preventable measures, much reduced in frequency and severity. Two deaths of children under 2 years of age were due to Diarrhœa and Enteritis. Measles was the most fatal of these diseases.

Altogether, there were 14 deaths from diseases included in this category, the epidemic death-rate having been .73, compared with .87 in 1913, .91 in 1912, and 1.9 in 1911.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

Basford Isolation Hospital is available for cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and also Enteric Fever, a certain sum having to be paid per week during the patient's residence there, together with the cost of removal in the Hospital Ambulance. Only 2 cases have been sent to this Hospital during the year, all other cases having been isolated at home.

The expense incurred by an extensive use of this Hospital would be very heavy, but much heavier would be the cost of providing and maintaining a Hospital for this district alone, or even a combination of districts.

If, as is likely, at some future time, early or remote, Basford could no longer receive patients from this and other local districts into their Hospital, adequate provision would have to be made and expense incurred which might appreciably affect the rates.

If isolation at home is to be more or less the rule, then the building of houses with at least 3 bedrooms should be encouraged as much as possible.

This district, together with some other districts, has still at its disposal accommodation for the reception of Small-pox patients at the Rushcliffe Small-pox Hospital, towards which it pays a proportional sum yearly for its upkeep, etc.

The Notts. Ransom Sanatorium and Castle House, Nottingham, receive cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Other forms of Tuberculosis have been treated in the Children's Hospital, Gringley-on-the-Hill.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The diseases which are compulsorily notifiable are Small-pox, Cholera, Plague, Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever, Typhus Fever, Enteric Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and other forms of Tuberculosis.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 183, against 232 in 1913, and 161 in 1912. Of these notifications, 93 related to Carlton, 64 to Netherfield, and 26 to Porchester residents.

The case-rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole district was 10.3. For Carlton, 10.9; Netherfield, 9.5; and Porchester, 10.3.

The houses of those affected are visited and inspected; instructions, with regard to isolation and disinfection, given; enquiries made, as to source of disease; disinfectants provided, and serum supplied free where necessary.

Disinfection, in almost all cases, is carried out by the Council's officials.

Altogether, 6 patients suffering from notifiable diseases were removed to Hospitals.

Lace and hosiery work is done in many of the houses in this district, but all such work was immediately stopped in infected houses, and any goods in hand were rendered free from infection before returning them to manufacturers and others.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum became compulsorily notifiable on and from April 1st.

I have frequently stated that a steam disinfector is a necessary equipment for dealing with infectious cases; this becomes more so as the population increases, and repetition is therefore not out of place.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Small-pox.—Another year has passed with freedom from this disease. In the absence of immediate danger, neglect of the surest means of prevention is increasingly apparent, and in spite of the numerous instances of the value of vaccination during the past century, a large number of people fail to realise it. The number of unprotected rapidly increases, thereby adding to the danger of rapid extension if an outbreak occurs.

Amongst the reasons given by parents for refusing vaccination, and displaying their self-appreciated knowledge of the subject, is that they don't believe in it, whilst others will assert that it is only a money-making game, inferring, I assume, that vaccinators—in league with the Government—are defrauding the public, and only benefitting themselves.

Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.—There were 30 cases notified with 2 deaths, against 40 cases with 5 deaths in 1913. There was 1 fatal case of Diphtheria in Carlton, and another of Membranous Croup in Netherfield.

The attack-rate per 1,000 population was 1.1 and death-percentage per cases, 6.6, compared with 2.3 attack-rate and 12.5 percentage, in the previous year.

One patient was removed to the Basford Isolation Hospital.

There were 20 cases in Carlton, 8 in Netherfield, and 2 in Porchester. No particular class of property, except, perhaps, that occupied by persons whose children did not attend the elementary schools, was more exempt than another; the occupiers of new as well as old property being equally affected.

Twenty of the cases were of children under 15 years of age, and 14 of these were between 5 and 15, most of whom were of school age, therefore I am persuaded that the disease is more frequently acquired at school than elsewhere.

Scarlet Fever.—There were 72 notifications of Scarlet Fever, against 93 in the previous year. Of these, 27 each belonged to Carlton and Netherfield, and 18 to Porchester.

The attack-rate per 1,000 population for the whole district was 4.05, against 5.4 in the previous year.

There was no death from this disease, which of late years has been of a very mild type.

One patient was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Failing to recognise the disease in the first case has led to extension in families, but when early recognised, notified and isolated in homes, extension has been exceptional. Its mild character has caused the disease to have escaped notice in some instances, and so steps to prevent extension could not be taken. Recently, 6 children in one family were down with Scarlet Fever. On inquiry, the mother said that a week previously one of her children

had a slight rash, but that an elderly neighbour said that it was nothing, and that the child was not ill enough for a doctor's attendance. The mother, of course, afterwards wished she had acted on her own impulse and not taken the advice of her friend.

The majority of the cases, viz., 42, were of children between 5 and 15 years of age, indicating that school was the probable source of infection.

Erysipelas.—There were 31 notifications, with no deaths. In the previous year, there were 25 cases notified.

Erysipelas has, judging from the number of cases notified, been more prevalent in this than other districts. The predisposing causes may be constitutional, a wound, intemperance perhaps, and insanitary surroundings. Erysipelas may occur in epidemics. Meteorological conditions may have influence in propagation of the disease.

February and October were the only months without a case of Erysipelas having been notified.

Enteric Fever.—There was 1 case of Enteric Fever in Carlton in May. Three weeks previous to the attack the man had drunk water from a pond, adjacent to which he had been removing a heap of manure containing night-soil. The patient recovered after a severe illness, and he will doubtless henceforth be a little more particular respecting the beverage he takes, however thirsty he may be. The patient lived in a semi-detached cottage in a field, away from other houses, the only other occupant being his wife, who nursed him. A special pail was provided for the reception of the stools, and disinfectants freely supplied.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—There was 1 case of this disease affecting the eyes of the newly-born. The compulsory notification of this disease, as before mentioned, came into force on April 1st. Luckily, a good recovery was made, and the child's sight preserved.

It is very desirable that the notification of this disease should be strictly enforced, especially in a district where midwives, to a great extent exclusively practice, so that children shall have proper medical attention and nursing.

In this district a majority of the women are attended by midwives only at their confinements, and it is not sufficient to leave the treatment, or directions for treatment of discharge from the eyes of the newly-born to them. The midwife attends her case for about 10 days, spending but a very short time in the house each day ; so that, even if she were perfectly well qualified to treat Ophthalmia cases, the attention she could bestow on them would not suffice. In some cases, only constant attention and suitable treatment for two or three weeks can be successful in preventing permanent blindness or impaired vision.

Tuberculosis.—Of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, there were 34, and of other forms of Tuberculosis 14 notifications received. Some of these notifications refer to cases previously notified ; for instance, with respect to Carlton, 1 case had been notified in the previous year, and another case three times in 1914 ; and of Netherfield cases, 2 had been notified in the previous year, and 2 twice in 1914 ; thus the number of primary notifications would amount to 41.

In 1913 the total number of notifications of Tuberculosis was 71.

The apparent discrepancy in number of notifications, compared with the actual number of fresh cases, is explained by the fact that notifications have to be sent on the arrival at, and also on the departure from, a sanatorium.

During the year, under Form A, notified by general practitioners, there were 28 notifications of Pulmonary and 11 of other Tuberculosis cases. Under Form C, referring to cases received in Hospitals, there were 2 notifications of Pulmonary and 2 of other Tuberculosis cases ; and Form D, of those leaving Hospital, there were 4 notifications of Pulmonary and 1 of other Tuberculosis cases.

There were 13 deaths from Pulmonary and 8 from other Tuberculosis diseases, including Tuberculous Meningitis.

The death-rate from all forms of Tuberculous diseases was 1.2 per 1,000 population, and of all deaths the percentage was a little over 11.

Of more importance than sanatorium treatment, towards diminishing cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, is the condition of the home with regard to cleanliness, ventilation, air space, other sanitary conditions, and food ; because the result of sanatorium treatment is nullified if the patient returns to unfavourable environment.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.—This disease has claimed, during the year, rather more than its usual quota of deaths, for no less than 9 children succumbed, compared with 2 in 1913, 7 in 1912 and 5 in 1911.

There were 2 children under 1 year, 4 between 1 and 2, 1 between 2 and 5, and 2 between 5 and 15 years of age, who died from this disease, which in all cases affected the lungs to a fatal extent.

Measles, at its outset, may appear to be merely a common cold, and thus deceived, parents allow their children to continue attendance at school, although really in a very infectious condition; such symptoms are only recognised in their true character, if at all, when an epidemic is well established. Whether the infection of Measles can be conveyed by individuals not themselves affected, but who have nursed or been in contact with sufferers, is not decisively known, but probable. From my own observations of outbreaks, I am inclined to think that the infection may not only be conveyed to others by direct contact, but by unaffected contacts, and even by the air. Frequently during an epidemic, a baby—an only child—has been attacked, and after the strictest inquiry no evidence of actual contact has been forthcoming.

Whooping Cough.—This disease caused 1 death. In the previous year there were 5 deaths from it.

Influenza.—This disease has become endemic, and is rarely absent for any length of time. Cases abounded in the cold and wet weather, but also in the summer were not entirely absent. There were 4 deaths attributed to this complaint.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis.—There was 1 death from Diarrhœa and another from Enteritis, both of children under two years of age. Climatic conditions have once more chiefly prevented the incidence of epidemic Diarrhœa. Accumulations of manure and decomposing organic matter, also pail-closets and middens, under favourable weather conditions, contribute materially to Diarrhœa epidemics, therefore, conversion of pail into water-closets and strict attention to cleanliness in the purlieus of dwellings are very desirable.

Mumps and Chicken-pox have been somewhat prevalent in some parts of the district during the year.

SOME OTHER DISEASES.

Cancer caused 16 deaths. No abatement of fatal cases is shown, for in 1913 there were 14; in 1912, 9; and 1911, 10 deaths. The percentage of all deaths was between 8 and 9, and the death-rate per 1,000 population .9, compared with .8 in 1913, .5 in 1912 and .6 in 1911.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia.—There were 8 deaths from Bronchitis, and 20 from all forms of Pneumonia. As in the previous year the fatal cases of Bronchitis were of elderly and very young people, and those of Pneumonia included all ages.

Heart Disease.—There were 20 deaths, against 27 in 1913. Of the total, 13 were deaths of elderly people over 65 years of age.

SCAVENGING.

Quoting from the Surveyor's Report, there are 2,890 pail-closets, 1,434 water-closets, and 362 dust-bins in the district.

During the year, there have been 5 conversions of pail into water-closets. This number is exceedingly small, and considering the importance attached to this matter by the Local Government Board and other sanitary authorities, I think special efforts should be made to accelerate such conversions. The Council very wisely insist on all new houses being provided with water-closets.

The retention of fœcal matter, even for the space of one week, close to dwellings, especially in the summer when flies are abundant and the atmosphere is thereby polluted, is palpably detrimental to health.

The sewage from Carlton and Porchester flows by gravitation, and that from Netherfield is pumped into the Nottingham Corporation sewer, and thereby conveyed to the sewage farm at Stoke Bardolph; £751 against £851 in the previous year was paid to Nottingham for such disposal.

The roads have been regularly swept and watered when necessary, and the street gulleys cleansed and disinfected.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 32 milksellers, 12 cowsheds and nearly 50 milch cows in the district. The milksellers are registered.

The premises of the above have been inspected, and, as things go, found fairly satisfactory.

There is, no doubt, room for improvement with regard to the keeping of cows, milking, and disposal of milk, which will probably be effected in time, and when the new Milk Act comes into force. Improvement is desirable with regard to the construction of cowsheds and their air-space and ventilation.

The importance of cleanliness in the dairy, in the management and housing of cows, and milking should not be overlooked.

Periodical inspection of milch cows by a veterinary surgeon, to prevent milk from tuberculous animals being sold for feeding purposes, would be a useful and needed protection.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 9 registered slaughterhouses, and these have been frequently inspected at slaughtering and other times. Full details embracing these inspections, together with those of food and of steps taken, will be found in the Inspector of Nuisances' Report which is attached to this.

To facilitate thoroughly effective inspection, I may repeat that a public abattoir is, in my opinion, an essential.

SMOKE PREVENTION.

In two instances, measures were taken to procure abatement of smoke nuisance.

The amount of smoke issuing from house as well as factory chimneys is very great ; a sheer waste of fuel, and distinctly unhealthy, so that improved methods of fuel consumption and house warming must be beneficial.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., ACT.

To fulfil all the requirements of this Act, at all speedily, in a district containing so many old and also small houses as exist in Carlton Ward, is no light task. Whether a many of these houses would be regarded as passable or not by a highly expert and independent authority I am not prepared to say, but, to my mind, a wholesale disturbance of the tenants and demolition or closing of such houses, without erecting new and low-rented ones to take their place, would cause much distress and dissatisfaction.

I mentioned in my last Annual Report that the occupants of such houses are generally very poor people, such as are receiving out-door relief, pensions, or scanty earnings.

There are several back-to-back houses with, of course, no through ventilation, but if converted into single houses by breaking through connecting walls, they would be much too large for the requirements and finances of the people at present occupying them ; and although large enough perhaps, would not attract, for obvious reasons, people who could afford to pay higher rents.

For the sake of decency, ensuring proper separation of sexes, and, if needful, isolation of infectious diseases, houses should, as a rule, have at least 3 bedrooms. If all three bedrooms cannot conveniently be fitted with fireplaces, one room might have a ventilating grate instead. Sash windows are preferable to casements for ventilation.

Asphalted or paved back-yards can be swilled and kept free from organic pollution, and are healthier than small gardens with sodden soil.

In tabular form, the work done in 1914 is as follows :—

(1.) Number of houses inspected under Section 17, 250

(2.) Considered unfit for habitation, 2.

(3.) Representations made to local authority with a view to the making of closing orders, 2.

(4.) Closing orders made, 2.

(5.) Dwelling-houses, the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders, 202.

(6.) Dwelling-houses, which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation, 2.

Two houses have been demolished, by arrangement, without closing orders.

Two houses were also demolished in 1914, after the issue of closing orders in the previous year.

Dampness and dilapidations in and surrounding the houses were the chief defects found to exist, full particulars of which are contained in the Inspector of Nuisances' Report.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 6 factories and 91 workshops, the latter consisting of 11 bakehouses, 6 railway workshops, 12 workshops with machinery, 4 meat-boiling, 3 blacksmiths', and 55 other workshops, all of which have been inspected.

Five defects were discovered and the same number of notices served, 2 were remedied, and 3 referred to H.M. Inspector.

There were 34 lists of out-workers sent twice, and 28 once, in the year, containing the names of 12 contractors and 229 work-people, the majority of whom resided in the district.

There were 2 instances of out-work in unwholesome premises, and 3 of out-work in infected premises, and were suitably dealt with without prosecution.

One bakehouse was condemned and vacated on account of insanitary conditions.

There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

There was 1 instance of failure to affix abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (S. 133, 1901).

METEOROLOGY.

Dr. Henry Handford, County Medical Officer, has once more been good enough to supply me with a chart of, and also observations upon, the weather conditions of the past year, which I have pleasure in availing myself of for the purposes of this Report, and which are appended thereto.

In conclusion, I once more beg to acknowledge and express my thanks for the courtesy and consideration which I have invariably received from the Council and my fellow-officers, and remain

Your obedient servant,

J. T. KNIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

February, 1915.

Elmfield,
Southwell, Notts.
January 4th, 1915.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
Upon the Year 1914,
By Henry Handford, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.

"The year was, on the whole, a dry and a warm one. There were six periods of absolute drought, continuing for more than a week, namely:—11 consecutive days from April 12th to 22nd, inclusive; 10 consecutive days from May 12th to 21st, inclusive; 8 consecutive days from June 23rd to 30th, inclusive; 10 consecutive days from August 10th to 19th, inclusive; 12 consecutive days from August 27th to September 7th, inclusive; 22 consecutive days from September 21st to October 12th, inclusive.

"In the Autumn the soil was thoroughly dry and baked so hard that in many districts ploughing was delayed, and in others, where the soil was lighter, germination after sowing was hindered.

"The last three months of the year were wet months, and the phenomenal precipitation in December served to bring up the total rainfall for the year to within 1.43 inches of the average.

"In each month of the year the mean temperature exceeded the average; February, March, April and October being much in excess. On only four occasions did the shade temperature exceed 80° Fahrenheit, namely: 2 in June and 2 in July. On 63 days the temperature reached or exceeded 70° Fahrenheit, namely: 3 in April, 4 in May, 12 in June, 16 in July, 20 in August and 8 in September.

"There were no very severe frosts, but the two frosts in May, namely: on the 2nd and again on the 26th, did much damage to the fruit crop, especially to plums and apples.

"In the 21 days, from April 12th to May 2nd, the precipitation only amounted to .02 inches."

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS at ELMFIELD, SOUTHWELL, by Dr. HANDFORD, for the year 1914.

Longitude, 0°, 56′ 51″, W. Latitude, 53°, 4′, 42″, N.

MONTH	TEMPERATURE						FROSTS		RELATIVE HUMIDITY at 8 a.m.	RAINFALL Diameter of Funnel, 5in. Height of Top above Ground.....1ft. above Sea Level, 132·27ft.		
	Maximum	Date	Minimum	Date	Mean	Difference from average	In Screen	On Grass		Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 hours	Number of rainy days
										Inches	Inches Date	
January	54·2	31st	17·5	1st	37·4	+0·9	15	26	90·3	1·290	0·455 10th	18
February	56·4	1st	26·3	27th	42·7	+3·7	8	20	81·2	1·175	0·205 21st	17
March	59·7	31st	27·9	28th	42·4	+2·2	9	18	84·6	2·365	0·375 11th	22
April	73·1	22nd	30·2	12th	48·6	+4·0	4	16	72·5	0·980	0·290 4th	9
May	74·8	18th	27·3	2nd	50·9	+0·1	2	7	76·4	1·700	0·520 22nd	14
June	85·6	30th	36·3	3rd	58·1	+1·3	0	0	75·9	2·155	0·875 9th	7
July	83·6	1st	46·9	8th	61·8	+1·8	0	0	79·5	2·400	0·550 1st	15
August	79·4	23rd	42·3	18th	60·8	+1·4	0	0	84·7	2·140	0·705 24th	12
September	79·1	3rd	30·1	30th	55·0	+0·2	3	5	82·9	0·645	0·290 12th	7
October	65·2	3rd	30·7	28th	49·3	+2·5	2	4	91·9	2·175	0·790 25th	14
November	57·9	30th	26·6	21st	42·9	+0·3	11	18	89·8	2·955	0·505 13th	21
December	53·1	2nd	24·0	25th	38·8	+1·0	13	24	90·7	4·590	0·620 28th	28
							67	138		24·570	0·875 June 9th	184

Maximum Temperature, 85·6 on June 30th. Minimum Temperature, 17·5 on January 1st.
Total Rainfall, 24·570 inches. Difference from average, −1·43.
Total Rainfall taken by Monthly Rain Gauge, 24·270 inches. Mean Temperature for the Year, 49·058°.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
			Net.						Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Uncorrected Number.	Number	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number.	Rate
1909	15 813	457	...	...	139	8·79	...	15	41	90	154	9·73
1910	16,072	411	...	...	155	9 64	...	14	45	113	169	10·52
1911	15 723	415	419	26·65	173	11·00	1	19	47	112	191	12·15
1912	16,398	405	406	24·76	132	8·05	2	19	26	64	149	9·09
1913	17,243	438	439	25·46	189	10·96	5	25	41	93	209	12·12
1914	17,784	495	495	27·83	165	9·28	6	27	37	75	186	10·46

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) } 1,459.

Total population at all ages, 15,585 ..... } At Census of 1911.
Total families or separate occupiers, 3,570 ... }

TABLE 2.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.								Total Cases notified in each Locality.			Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwds	Carlton	Netherfield	Porchester	
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria (including Mem. Croup)	30	2	4	14	6	4	0	0	20	8	2	1
Erysipelas	31	0	0	1	3	8	13	6	21	7	3	0
Scarlet Fever	72	1	15	42	7	6	1	0	27	27	18	1
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	34	2	0	2	11	12	5	2	17	17	0	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	14	1	3	7	1	2	0	0	6	5	3	2
Totals	183	7	22	66	28	33	19	8	93	64	26	6

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc, { Rushcliffe Small-pox Hospital. Basford Isolation Hospital. Ransom Sanatorium. Children's Hospital, Gringley-on-the-Hill.

TABLE 3.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1914.

Causes of Death.	Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages.	Und'r 1. year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.
All causes { Certified	180	36	13	8	9	6	21	36	51
All causes { Uncertified	6	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	2
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	9	2	4	1	2	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria & Croup	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Influenza	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	13	2	0	0	0	3	5	3	0
Tuberculous Meningitis	5	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	0
Other tuberculous diseases	3	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease	16	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	9
Rheumatic Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organic Heart Disease	20	0	0	1	0	1	0	5	13
Bronchitis	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	20	3	3	4	1	1	2	5	1
Other diseases of Respirat'ry org'ns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhœa & Ent'ritis	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cirrhosis of liver	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Alcoholism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Congenital Debility and Malf'rmation including Premature birth	22	21	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Suicide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other defined diseases	49	6	1	1	2	0	7	11	21
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Totals	186	37	13	9	9	6	22	37	53

TABLE 4.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

1914. Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes { Certified	11	2	2	3	18	7	3	7	1	36
All Causes { Uncertified	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicken-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria and Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculous Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abdominal Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Convulsions	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Laryngitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bronchitis	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Diarrhœa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Gastritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rickets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Suffocation, overlying	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injury at Birth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Atelectasis	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Congenital Malformations	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Premature Birth	10	0	0	1	11	3	0	0	0	14
Atrophy, Debility, & Marasmus	0	0	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	6
Other Causes	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
Totals...	11	2	2	3	18	8	3	7	1	37

Net Births in the year { Legitimate .. 46
Illegitimate .. 26

Net Deaths in the year of { Legitimate Infants 36
Illegitimate Infants 1

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Prosecutions.
Factories ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	6		
Workshops ... ... (Includi'g Worksh'p Laundries	91	5	
Total	97	5	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects. Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Drainage Floors ...	1	1		
Other Fuisances	1	1		
Sanitary Accommodation insufficient	3		3	
Total	5	2	3	0

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS. Sending twice in the year: Lists.	Outworkers: Contractors	Outworkers: Workmen.	Sending once in the year: Lists.	Outworkers: Contractors	Outworkers: Workmen.	OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES. Instances	Notice served	OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES. Instances	Orders made
Wearing Apparel-Making, &c.	14	10	22	21	0	174	2	2	3	3
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets .	20	2	26	7	0	7				
Total ..	34	12	48	28	0	181	2	2	3	3

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	11
Railway Workshops	6
Workshops with Machinery	12
Boilers of Meat	4
Blacksmiths' Shops	3
Other Workshops, &c.	55
Total number of workshops on Register ...	91

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts 1

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act — Notified by H.M. Inspector 3; Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ... 3

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
CARLTON, JANUARY, 1915.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARLTON.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my First Annual Report, dealing with the work done in my department during the year 1914.

Staff: Surveyor, A. H. ELLIOTT, Assoc. M.Inst. C.E.

Permanent men in the employment of the Council: Daymen—1 Foreman, 1 Pavior, 5 Roadmen and 4 Carters; Nightmen—1 Foreman and 5 men. In addition to the above, there are 1 Steam-roller Driver, 1 Engineer at Pumping Station, 1 Horsekeeper, 1 Cemetery Caretaker, 1 Free Library Caretaker, 2 Recreation Ground Caretakers, and 4 Lamplighters.

Total number of Workmen, 28.

One week's summer holiday is granted to the whole of the Workmen, excepting the Road Foreman and the 6 Roadmen.

The actual amounts paid for staffing the department (not including Surveyors' salaries) during the past seven years are as follows :—

	Current Account	Private Street Works	Total
1908	£1,391	£139	£1,530
1909	£1,420	£210	£1,630
1910	£1,578	—	£1,578
1911	£1,670	£209	£1,879
1912	£1,825	£566	£2,391
1913	£2,054	£338	£2,392
1914	£2,019	£116	£2,135

List of Rolling Stock :—

1 Steam Roller (10 tons weight).
1 Hand Roller.
1 Tar Boiler and Hand Spraying Machine.
3 Water Vans.
3 Box Carts.
4 Sanitary Carts.
2 Horse Sweeping Machines.
1 Hand-cart.
3 Barrows.

The Council keep 9 horses in all ; 6 for the Health Department and 3 for the Works and Ways Department.

Lowest ground level in the district, 69 feet above Ordnance Datum (mean sea level at Liverpool) ; highest ground level in the district, 422 feet above Ordnance Datum (mean sea-level at Liverpool).

The subsoil water is only a few feet below the surface in the low-lying parts of the district, but at a depth of about 500 feet there is a vast underground lake of pure drinking water, and I estimate a 12-inch borehole at the Council's Depot would discharge approximately 2,000,000 gallons per diam, to a considerable height above the ground-level at that point.

New Buildings.—During the year, 81 plans of dwelling-houses were put before you and approved; of these, 44 were for Porchester Ward and 37 for Carlton Ward. In addition, plans were approved for alterations and additions to the following, viz.,—1 workshop, 1 factory, 1 motor-garage, 1 stable and motor-garage, 4 dwelling-houses, 1 lock-up shop, and 1 laundry and piggeries.

Roads and Streets.—The whole length of the margins between the kerb and granite-set paving of tramways from the City Boundary to the brow of Carlton Hill, and the sides of Burton Road from the Ouse Bridge to Orlando Drive, have been repaved in tar-mac, under the Road Board scheme; and the whole length of Woodborough Road, under the control of your Council, has been repaved in slag. This latter paving will only be effective for a short time, however, as owing to the very heavy traffic which this road has now to bear, the attrition will reduce it to powder (which one sees in the form of mud and dust), and it will become necessary to re-coat it soon with either granite or tar-mixed material.

Various streets in Netherfield have been tar-sprayed, and the great benefit from this is very noticeable in bad weather, and the life of the surface has been considerably increased.

By a still more extensive use of tar-mac in the future, greater cleanliness and less scavenging can be obtained. The marked difference in the cleanliness of the tar-paved portions of your roadways, as compared with the water-bound macadam roadways, is very apparent in bad weather, and although on gradients, for obvious reasons, we cannot use tar-mac, the use of same must be persevered with, for the above reason and to save maintenance cost in the long run.

One private street has been made up, viz., Albert Avenue. This work has been carried out by direct labour, at a cost of £672.

The following are the amounts of the road-metalling, etc., used during the year, viz., 97 tons of granite, 896 tons slag, 1,359 tons tar-macadam, 1,240 sup. yards concrete slabs, and 1,362 lin. yards York and Granite kerbing.

The water carts were in use on 106 days.

The expenditure on the construction, maintenance and scavenging of the whole of the highways and streets, after deducting grants and receipts, has been £884, as against £837 in 1913 and £981 in 1912.

Sewers.—Most of these are in a good condition, and only twice have I had occasion to break down and clear away a stoppage. In the districts where bad gradients obtain, I flush the sewers every fortnight.

Sewage Disposal.—The Nottingham Corporation charge for the disposal of our sewage this year was £751 12s. 1d., as against £851 in 1913.

Street Lighting.—There is a total of 308 lamps in your district, 10 new lamps having been erected during the year. There are 176 lamps burning upright mantles and 132 burning inverted mantles, and a conversion of the former into the latter—a more economical mantle—is gradually being carried out. The expenditure in this department has been £870.

Night-soil Scavenging.—During the year, 3,035 loads of night-soil, and other refuse, have been removed ; of this number, 1,226 loads were deposited on the allotment tips, for the use of your Council's tenants, and the remainder were supplied to farmers in the locality.

The expenditure of this department for the year was £832, as against £870 in the prevous year.

There have been no complaints whatever as to nuisance caused by the distribution of the night-soil, and it is not being stored for any length of time on any of the tips.

The total number of pail-closets in your district is 2,890 ; there being 1,414 in Netherfield, 1,237 in Carlton and 239 in Porchester and Thorneywood. There are 362 dust-bins, and a total of 1,434 w.c.'s, including 1,394 domestic, 20 trade and 20 meter w.c.'s.

There has been one or two complaints from people in the Porchester district as to the night-soil men removing the dust-bins in the night, but if you think it advisable that these should be emptied only in the daytime, this could, I believe, be done at a small saving of cost.

Cemetery.—There have been 144 interments, as against 168 in 1913.

Free Library.—The Lending Library and the Reading Room continue to be largely used.

Fire Brigade.—There has, happily, been no serious fires in your district, but the Brigade, whom I found to be very efficient, attended fires at the Nottingham Corporation Bulcote Farm ; Buxton's Nurseries, Gedling ; Stack fire at Hickling ; Barn fire at Colston Bassett ; W. Holbrook's Stable and Joinery Works ; and also received calls to fires at the G.N.R. Co., Netherfield ; Hickling, and Clifton.

Steam Roller.—The steam roller has been thoroughly overhauled, the whole of the tubes withdrawn, and new ones put in ; also an automatic lubricator has been fixed to oil engine parts. Outside work has been done to the extent of £55 12s. 6d., as against £44 last year ; and will, in the future, be even more largely used by outside authorities.

Public Conveniences.—The urinal on Carlton Hill is now completed, and has proved a great convenience. The penny-in-the-slot w.c.'s in the Station Road urinal have justified the amount of money spent upon them, and they are largely used.

In conclusion, I wish to express my best thanks to all the members of your Council who have helped to make my position here a happy one ; and I deeply appreciate the kindness of every one of my fellow-officials, who have, without hesitation, at all times assisted me in the discharge of my various duties.

I have the honour to be

Your faithful servant

AUSTIN H. ELLIOTT.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the following Report of a large amount of work done, and other matters, relating to the past year.

Slaughterhouses.—There are 9 of these in use, and they have been constantly inspected week by week, and have been kept in a satisfactory condition. I have received 2 applications for new slaughterhouses. The approximate number of animals slaughtered each week has been as follows:—beast, 20; sheep, 30; and pigs, 30. Four carcases of beast have been discovered in an unsatisfactory state. After a veterinary's examination, certain parts of one beast were allowed to be sold, and 3 carcases were condemned as quite unfit for food. One sheep's head with pluck, and also 182 Egyptian eggs were condemned.

Home-workers.—Visits have been paid to these, and in three instances work in infected houses was immediately stopped, and the goods disinfected before being returned to owners. There are about 211 home-workers in the district.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 6 factories, 10 bakehouses and 81 workshops and work-places. One bakehouse has been closed during the year, owing to its unsatisfactory condition and surroundings.

Three premises requiring attention were pointed out by the Factory Inspector, and 4 by the Medical Officer of Health, and dealt with.

Milksellers, etc.—There are 32 milksellers. Some improvement has been effected in the way milk has been brought into the district. Under the new Milk Bill, which will probably soon be passed, it may be found that a few premises may not be considered satisfactory.

There are 12 cowsheds in fairly good order, and about 47 milch cows kept.

Closets.—Five pail-closets have been converted into water-closets. Twenty-one cases of closet defects were remedied.

Disinfection, etc.—Three beds, with pillows and mattresses, have been destroyed by fire, after fatal cases of cancer and consumption. Eighty-one houses have been fumigated after infection, and two houses on account of filth, the latter were also lime-washed.

Nuisances.—Two cases of pigeons kept inside dwellings have been dealt with, and in two instances the public water course has been blocked, requiring attention.

Eighty-one statutory notices have been served, and 60 others, either verbally or by letter. Smoke nuisances, polluted well-water, dirty dwellings, and over-crowding, are some of the conditions which have required attention, and been remedied after serving notice, verbally or otherwise.

Eleven samples of well-water, supplying 14 houses have been taken and examined. One well supplying two houses has been closed, and another has been cleaned.

The number of inspections made during the year was 2,375.

Housing, Town Planning, etc.—Two hundred and fifty houses have been inspected under Section 17. Two closing orders made during the year were withdrawn, the property having been made satisfactory. Two houses were demolished, after issue of closing orders. Two other houses were taken down, by arrangement. A lot of useful work has been accomplished, as follows:—Damp courses laid in 5 houses; kitchen floors repaired in 20 cases; fire-grates repaired, 7; back-yards repaired, 19, connected with 34 houses; fowl-pens, 27 removed; pigeons kept in houses, stopped in 2 cases; repairs to house roofs, 35; repairs to stairs, 9; repairs to chimneys, 27; repairs to doors, 15; repairs to windows, 11; dangerous walls, 5; etc.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. E. TRUMAN,

Inspector of Nuisances.